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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/938,001	08/22/2001	William Lunceford Barnett	50603-3	1108

23932 7590 06/12/2002

JENKENS & GILCHRIST, PC  
1445 ROSS AVENUE  
SUITE 3200  
DALLAS, TX 75202

EXAMINER

BUTLER, DOUGLAS C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3683

DATE MAILED: 06/12/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



09/938001

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6

DATE MAILED:

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.  
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

- ☒ This application has been examined    ☐ Responsive to communication filed on \_\_\_\_\_    ☐ This action is made final.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), 0 days from the date of this letter.  
Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. 35 U.S.C. 133

**Part I THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENT(S) ARE PART OF THIS ACTION:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited by Examiner, PTO-892. | 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsman's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Art Cited by Applicant, PTO-1449.                 | 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152.       |
| 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Information on How to Effect Drawing Changes, PTO-1474.     | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> _____   |

**Part II SUMMARY OF ACTION**

1. ☒ Claims 1-18 are pending in the application.

Of the above, claims \_\_\_\_\_ are withdrawn from consideration.

2. ☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ have been cancelled.

3. ☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are allowed.

4. ☒ Claims 1-16 are rejected.

5. ☒ Claims 17-18 are objected to.

6. ☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

7. ☐ This application has been filed with informal drawings under 37 C.F.R. 1.85 which are acceptable for examination purposes.

8. ☐ Formal drawings are required in response to this Office action.

9. ☐ The corrected or substitute drawings have been received on \_\_\_\_\_. Under 37 C.F.R. 1.84 these drawings are ☐ acceptable; ☐ not acceptable (see explanation or Notice of Draftsman's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948).

10. ☐ The proposed additional or substitute sheet(s) of drawings, filed on \_\_\_\_\_, has (have) been ☐ approved by the examiner; ☐ disapproved by the examiner (see explanation).

11. ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed \_\_\_\_\_, has been ☐ approved; ☐ disapproved (see explanation).

12. ☐ Acknowledgement is made of the claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. 119. The certified copy has ☐ been received ☐ not been received ☐ been filed in parent application, serial no. \_\_\_\_\_; filed on \_\_\_\_\_.

13. ☐ Since this application appears to be in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

14. ☒ Other domestic priority  
is acknowledged.

**EXAMINER'S ACTION**

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### DETAILED ACTION

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in-

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or

(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

2. Claims 1-2, 7, 8, 10-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kulkarni et al(US006068352)

See column 2, line 66 to column 3, line 10 re the feature of increasing voltage, i.e., a voltage booster. See also, column 8, line 35 to column 9, line 8 and column 22, lines 40 to 67.

3. Claims 1-10, 14, 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wood(5709435).

Voltage amplifiers or boosters are conventional. Note master cylinder and brake pedals at 16 and 18.

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4. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 13, 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kline et al(4938542).

See column 2, lines 26-58 re the use of a voltage booster.

5. Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 10, 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated Pokrinchak et al(3738710).

See the Abstract, column 4, lines 22-38, claims 3, 4.

6. Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Woerner et al(US006075439) or under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Aichele et al(4856850).

7. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated Hughes(US005442332).

Note voltage boosters or amplifiers 98a, 98b of Figure 5A of Hughes(US005442332).

8. Note the additional cited prior art directed to conventional voltage boosters.

9. Claims 17-18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.



10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Exmr. Butler whose telephone number is (703) 308-2575. The examiner is normally in the USPTO Monday-Friday from 9 a.m. to 2:00p.m. Although the examiner may not always be present in his office to immediately answer the phone when called, the examiner will make every effort to return the call as soon as possible. If the examiner does not answer his

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phone, the examiner suggests that a brief message be recorded on the examiner's voice mail machine when necessary and appropriate. The examiner normally checks recorded phone calls at least once a day unless on leave.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 305-7687. Examiner Butler's immediate supervisor is Jack Lavinder at (703)308-3421.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

  
DOUGLAS C. BUTLER  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  


6/10/02